

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 USNATO 04624 091816Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----052772 091818Z /46
O 091812Z MAY 78
FM USMISSION USNATO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1398

C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 04624

EXDIS

E.O.11652: GDS
TAGS: NATO, NAC
SUBJECT: NATO SUMMIT PREPARATION

REFS: (A) STATE 111288, (B) STATE 91069, (C) STATE 99970,
(D) STATE 110029, (E) USNATO 3733, (F) USNATO 4271,
(G) USNATO 4432, (H) USNATO 4123

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1. STATE'S 116288 WITH ITS IMPLICATION THAT SYG LUNS WILL
NOT BE INCLUDED IN PRESIDENT'S INFORMAL LUNCH ON MAY 30
REPRESENTS A COMPLETE CHANGE OF SIGNALS FROM EARLIER
INSTRUCTIONS AND IS FRANKLY QUITE DISTURBING.

2. A SERIES OF INSTRUCTIONS DATED 8 APRIL, 19 APRIL AND
29 APRIL (REFS B-D), ALL SPOKE OF A LUNCH TO BE HOSTED BY
THE PRESIDENT TO INCLUDE ONLY HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT
PLUS THE SECRETARY GENERAL. THE MESSAGE OF 29 APRIL WAS
VERY SPECIFIC AND READ AS FOLLOWS:

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"THE PRESIDENT IS PERSONALLY INVITING SYG LUNS AND HEADS
OF GOVERNMENT ONLY TO A PRIVATE LUNCH DURING THE SUMMIT."

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AS FAR BACK AS 8 APRIL WE WERE TOLD THIS HAD BEEN CON-
SIDERED AT THE HIGHEST LEVEL.

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3. IN A NUMBER OF NAC MEETINGS TO DISCUSS SUMMIT PLANNING,
WE HAVE DULY INFORMED COUNCIL OF US VIEWS ON LUNCH AND
OTHER ARRANGEMENTS FOR SUMMIT AS INSTRUCTED (REFS E-H).
THUS LUNS INCLUSION IN PRESIDENT'S LUNCHEON HAS BEEN A
MATTER OF PUBLIC RECORD SINCE EARLY APRIL. HIS INCLUSION
HAS BEEN ACCEPTED AS A MATTER OF COURSE BY NAC, AND
PRESUMABLY BY NATO GOVERNMENTS TO WHICH PERMREPS REPORT,

SINCE HE IS AFTER ALL PRESIDENT OF THE NATO COUNCIL.

4. THUS, I AM CONCERNED WITH INSTRUCTION CONTAINED STATE
116288 WHICH INDICATES SYG LUNS IS NOT TO BE INVITED TO
THE MAY 30 LUNCH. THIS COULD LEAVE THE CLEAR IMPRESSION
PUBLICLY AND PRIVATELY THAT LUNS HAS NOW BEEN DISINVITED.
SUCH ACTION WOULD, I FEAR, QUICKLY BECOME PART OF THE
PUBLIC DOMAIN AND RESULT IN ADVERSE PRESS COMMENT REGARDING
US PLANS FOR SUMMIT. BENNETT

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